

JPW



PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 2887.0219-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
TAKAHIRO IKEDA ET AL.)	
)	
Application No.: 10/807,188)	Group Art Unit: 2624
)	
Filed: March 24, 2004)	Examiner: Sheela C. Chawan
)	
For: GRAPHIC CONTOUR)	Confirmation No. 3749
EXTRACTING METHOD,)	
PATTERN INSPECTING)	
METHOD, PROGRAM AND)	
PATTERN INSPECTING)	
SYSTEM)	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

In an Office Action dated November 14, 2006, the period to respond to which extending through December 14, 2006, the Examiner required election of a single species under 35 U.S.C. § 121 from Species I-Species X identified at page 2 of the Office Action.

Applicants elect to prosecute Species I, characterized by the Examiner as a first embodiment corresponding to Figs. 1-3 and 4A-4E, without traverse. In addition, Applicants advise that claims 4, 5, 10, 11, 24, 27, 33, and 34 are readable on Species I.


Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.


Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: December 14, 2006

By:


Reg. No. 34,731

 Richard V. Burgujian
Reg. No. 31,744